MARVEL
4
LGY#654
DUGGAN
FRIGERI
VALENZA
60 YEARS
THE INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN

ONCE UPON A TIME ON A TERRAFORMED MARS, THE GODS CLASHED...*
*SEE AVENGERS (2013) #3! --DS

...AND INSTEAD OF HOLDING ON TO THAT PRIZE AND CONTINUING TO MAKE IT A GREEN WORLD, THEY LET IT *DIE* ON THE VINE.

WHAT FOOLS THEY ALL WERE...AND BEFORE I COULD STAKE HUMANITY'S CLAIM ON THE WORLD...

...THE *MUTANTS* STOLE IT.

EVERYTHING I'D WORKED MY ENTIRE LIFE FOR, SNATCHED AWAY BECAUSE OF THE SMALL-MINDEDNESS OF TONY STARK AND HIS AVENGERS FRIENDS.
DE-FUELING THE ROCKETS AND RETURNING THEM TO STORAGE WAS THE WORST DAY OF MY LIFE...

...BUT TODAY WILL BE ONE OF THE *BEST.* I AM FEILONG. I AM HUMANITY'S ANTIDOTE TO THE POST-HUMAN FASCISM WE LIVE UNDER.

Writing your autobiography necessitates looking into the rearview mirror more than I'd like.
And unfortunately, when you're Tony Stark, you'll have many candidates for the "worst day of your life." Like when my parents died…
…or, later, when shrapnel took up residence near my heart.
Discovering my Iron Man technology had proliferated among my enemies was a banner bummer day, and it's never good to tangle with Dr. Doom in Latveria. But…
…on this morning, the hair on the back of my neck was standing up, and by night, I'd have a new pony in my "Worst Day Derby."
My previously unnamed enemy told me to come out swinging "at the bell."
When you use that phrase with a C.E.O., you know you're in for a fight at one of the most beautiful and evil places on Earth…
…the New York Stock Exchange.

--AND THAT'S WHY HUMANITY CAN DEPEND ON NIMROD, DR. STASIS AND EVERYONE AT ORCHIS.
STARK UNLIMITED
I PERSONALLY WILL BE OVERSEEING MY PREDECESSOR'S COMPANY AND DEPLOYING THE TECHNOLOGY TO BETTER PROTECT HUMANITY'S INTERESTS.
AH, TONY! I'M SO GLAD YOU RECEIVED MY MESSAGE. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE FUN.
MY NEIGHBOR MARIELLE MARCUS...AND MY FRIEND ZHONG WEI.
THEY'LL BE AVENGED.
DING DING DING!
CONGRATS TO THE NEW OWNER OF STARK UNLIMITED--FEILONG!
THROW YOUR GAUNTLETS IN THE AIR!
NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
EXCUSE ME, TONY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS ALL ABOUT, AND I HAVE A LOT TO CELEBRATE.

WHEN MULTI-BILLIONAIRE INDUSTRIALIST TONY STARK, INVENTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE, DONS HIS SOLAR-CHARGED, STEEL-MESH ARMOR, HE BECOMES A HIGH-TECH WARRIOR—THE WORLD'S GREATEST HUMAN FIGHTING MACHINE!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

"THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF TONY STARK"

CHAPTER FOUR

PREVIOUSLY...

Tony Stark used to have it all. But after spending his entire fortune to take black-market weapons off the streets, all Stark is left with is his Iron Man armor.

Now Tony has a target on his back. Someone behind the scenes has been plotting Tony's downfall—from bombing his home to sending assassins after him. Unfortunately, civilians are getting caught in the crossfire.

Tony discovered who the culprit is, and he's getting his repulsors ready...

GERRY DUGGAN
WRITER

JUAN FRIGERI
ARTIST

BRYAN VALENZA
COLORIST

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

KAEL NGU
COVER ARTIST

ARTHUR ADAMS & BRAD ANDERSON; IBAN COELLO & JESUS ABURTOV; BOB LAYTON & PAUL MOUNTS; ALEX ROSS
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

ADAM DEL RE
SENIOR DESIGNER

KAT GREGOROWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

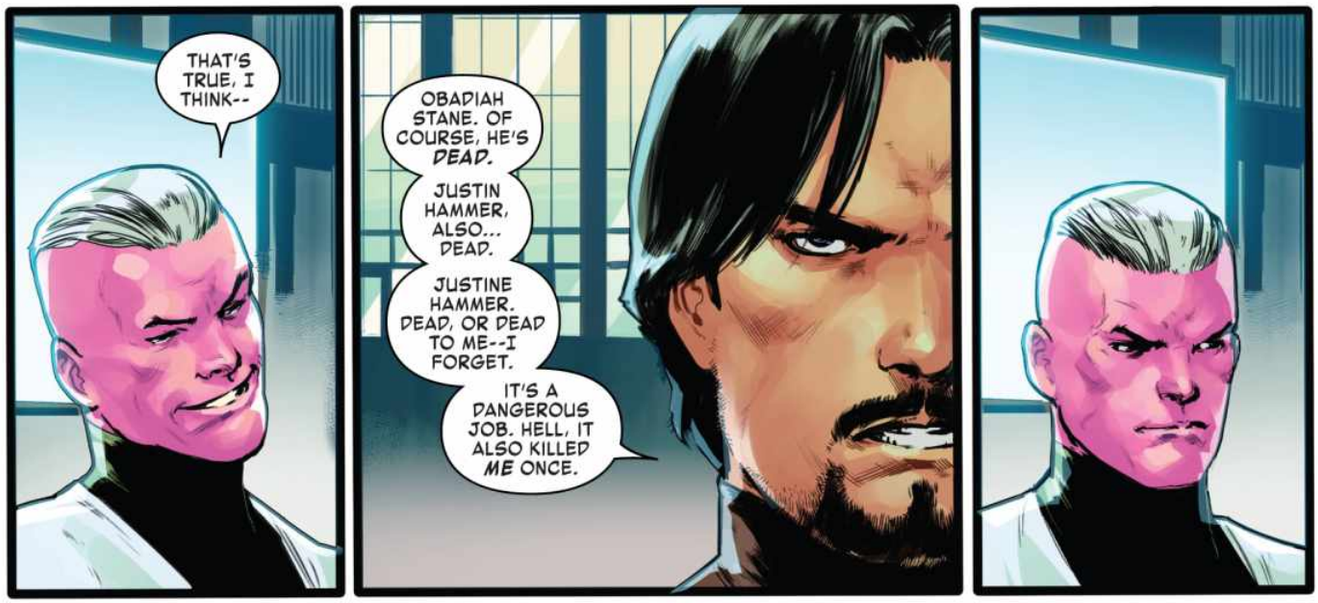
DARREN SHAN
EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

STARK UNLIMITED
I HAVE ALWAYS ADMIRED STARK COMPANIES. HOW COULD I NOT?
AND I TAKE IT AS A PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TO GRAB THE REINS AND RESTORE IT TO ITS GLORY.
WHAT DOES TONY STARK HAVE TO PROVE?
HE GAVE AWAY THE COMPANY. HE DROPPED THE GAUNTLET. I PICKED IT UP.
IT'S TRUE I DIDN'T MAKE MY INTENTIONS CLEAR BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT SPECULATORS DRIVING UP THE STOCK PRICE--
--BUT IF STARK STILL WANTED TO CHART A COURSE INTO THE FUTURE, HE WOULD SIMPLY STOP ME...
...AND HE'S RIGHT OVER THERE.
ONLY THE "BRAVEST" TRY HOSTILE TAKEOVERS ON STARK COMPANIES.


THAT'S TRUE, I THINK--
OBADIAH STANE. OF COURSE, HE'S *DEAD.*
JUSTIN HAMMER, ALSO... DEAD.
JUSTINE HAMMER. DEAD, OR DEAD TO ME--I FORGET.
IT'S A DANGEROUS JOB. HELL, IT ALSO KILLED *ME* ONCE.

YOU GUYS EVER CONSIDER FIGHTING FOR THE PINK SHEETS?
YEAH!

STARK WOULD NEVER STAND A CHANCE.
NO, WE WON'T BE DOING THAT.

MAYBE WE WILL. LET'S STEP OUTSIDE. UNLESS YOU'RE SCARED OF HAVING THE SHORTEST TENURE AS STARK C.E.O. IN HISTORY?

I didn't think Feilong would follow me out, but he did.
That's when I realized I didn't know enough about the man. Just a Wikipedia entry. I'd have to solve for that.
In the meantime, I let him do most of the talking and listened.
TONY, DON'T OBSESS OVER LOSING THE COMPANY. IT'S THE WAY OF THE WORLD...

...WHEN YOU ARE *OLD.*

TWO DEAD THAT I KNOW ABOUT SO FAR. CALL IT QUITS NOW AND MAKE RESTITUTION, OR PREPARE FOR WAR.
THE WAR'S OVER, TONY. *YOU LOST.*

SHOULDN'T YOU BE FIGHTING TOAD AND BLOB UP ON MARS?
I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE, BECAUSE I'M NOT OLD.

TOUCHE.
WHAT DO YOU EVEN WANT WITH STARK
I WANT TO MAKE IT GREAT AGAIN.

WHY DO YOU EVEN CARE? YOU WALKED AWAY.
I SEE. THE X-MEN'S FANTASY ISLAND WAS TOO TOUGH FOR YOU TO TAKE DOWN, SO NOW YOU'RE SWITCHING LANES. THINKING I'LL BE EASIER.
HA HA HA!
THAT'S RICH.
THE MUTANTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DEFEATED. AND WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THEM.
THAT'S A PARTY FOR ANOTHER DAY.
Overconfident. Smart.
He's mentioned abandonment

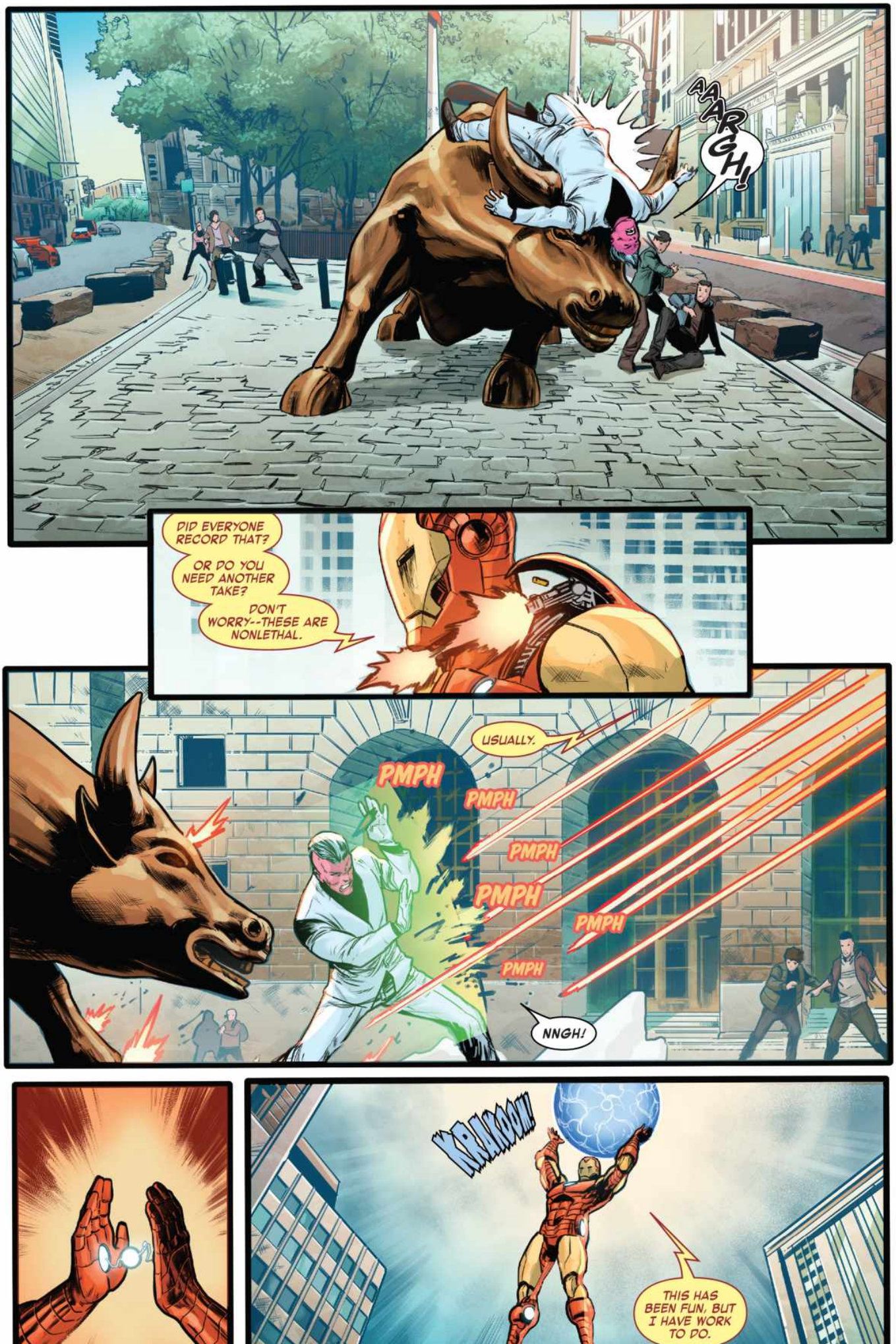
I know he's estranged from his parents.
YOU KNOW WHAT THE BIG DIFFERENCE IS BETWEEN US?
WHAT?
I MIGHT NOT LIKE THE ANSWER, BUT I KNOW WHERE MY OLD MAN IS.
ZAP!
Daddy issues?

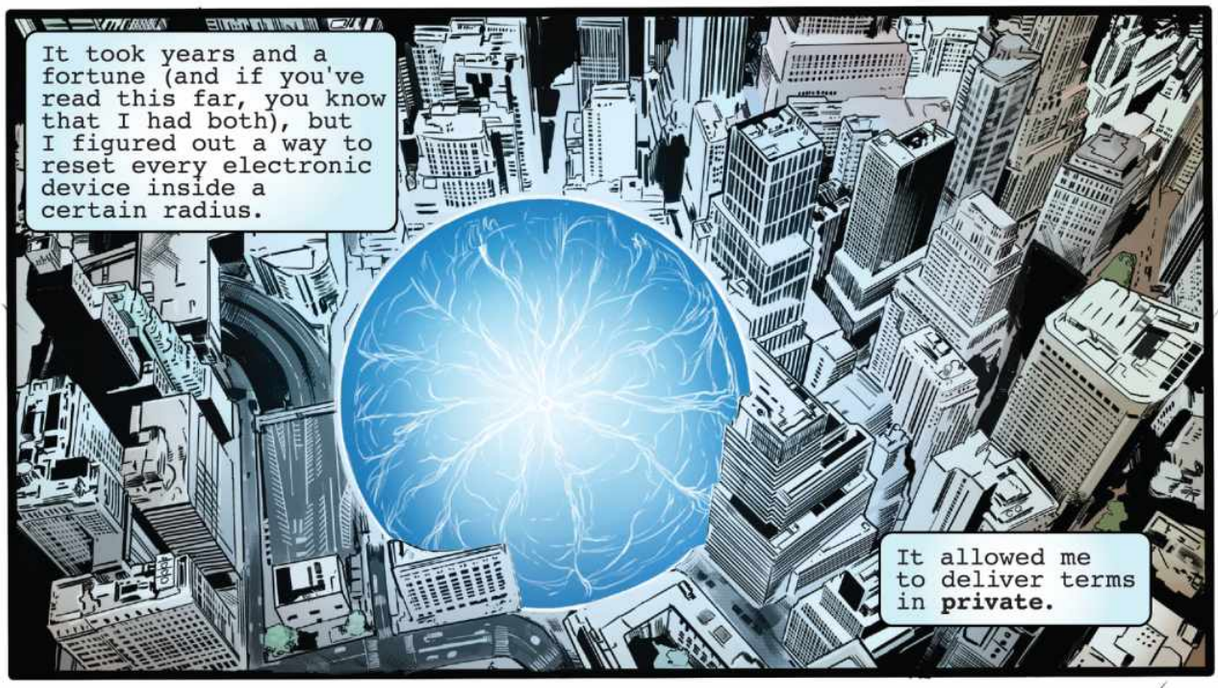
I SHOULD KNOW MYSELF BETTER THAN THAT.
WELL PLAYED, STARK. THAT WAS ALMOST AN UNFORCED ERROR.
NOW TO MAKE LEMONADE, I SUPPOSE.
GATHER 'ROUND, EVERYONE!
WHAT DO YOU SAY? DO YOU WANT TO SEE THE DISTANT PAST AND THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF STARK UNLIMITED SPAR?
MY SUIT IS A STATE-OF-THE-ART ARMOR WITH UNPARALLELED SHIELDS, AND THAT BLAST YOU SAW IS A VERY SPECIAL DEFENSIVE WEAPON.
I'D BE STUPID TO LET YOU PLAY ME FOR SOME PUBLIC RELATIONS...
...ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU MURDERED MY FRIEND.
BWEEM!
IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?

NO.
BZEEEEEE!
AAH!
WOOSH
YOU LEGITIMATELY ARE VERY SMART, YET YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND HOW ANGRY YOU'VE MADE ME. YOU SHED INNOCENT BLOOD TO GET TO ME...
BOOM!
...I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS, AND YOU TOOK ONE.
YOU WERE *ABANDONED.* ORPHANED BY YOUR PARENTS...AND THAT

I CAST MY PARENTS OUT. THEY WERE HOLDING ME BACK.
MY OFFER IS SIMPLE: FIGHT FOR HUMANITY. FIGHT FOR YOUR COMPANY.
FIGHT FOR YOUR LEGACY.
IF IT'S THE COMPANY YOU CARE FOR--YOU CAN EARN IT BACK.
WE CAN NEGOTIATE A SCENARIO WHERE IT EVEN LOOKS LIKE YOU BESTED ME.
IT WILL BE GOOD FOR STABILITY. A NEW TECHNOLOGICAL COLD WAR WOULD BENEFIT ALL OF HUMANITY...AFTER WE DO THE HARD THINGS THAT MUST BE DONE.
WHAT DO YOU SAY, STARK?
I SAY... LET'S STRESS TEST THOSE "UNPARALLELED" SHIELDS, SHALL WE?

SMACK
I don't know Feilong, but… I know who he wants to be.
The man in the tower deciding what happens below.
The guy who thought he was going to be Earth's first real "off-worlder."
The fact that he's gotten as far as he has is a problem. My head was in the clouds. Looking for invading Frost Giants or invading Celestials or--well, you get the picture.
I had to do it, but I'm **pissed** I put the business on autopilot.
RELAX, I GOT YOU.
SCHOOL BUS
WHOOPS.


AAARGH!
DID EVERYONE RECORD THAT?
OR DO YOU NEED ANOTHER TAKE?
DON'T WORRY--THESE ARE NONLETHAL.
USUALLY.
PMPH
PMPH
PMPH
PMPH
PMPH
PMPH
NNGH!
KRAKOOM
THIS HAS BEEN FUN, BUT I HAVE WORK TO DO.


It took years and a fortune (and if you've read this far, you know that I had both), but I figured out a way to reset every electronic device inside a certain radius.
It allowed me to deliver terms in **private.**

IMPRESSIVE.
I GOT A FEW SURPRISES UP ARMOR SLEEVES YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT YET.

ACK!
I GET IT. YOU HAD YOUR HEART BROKEN. THE MUTANTS STOLE MARS FROM YOU, AND YOU WANT YOUR POUND OF FLESH.

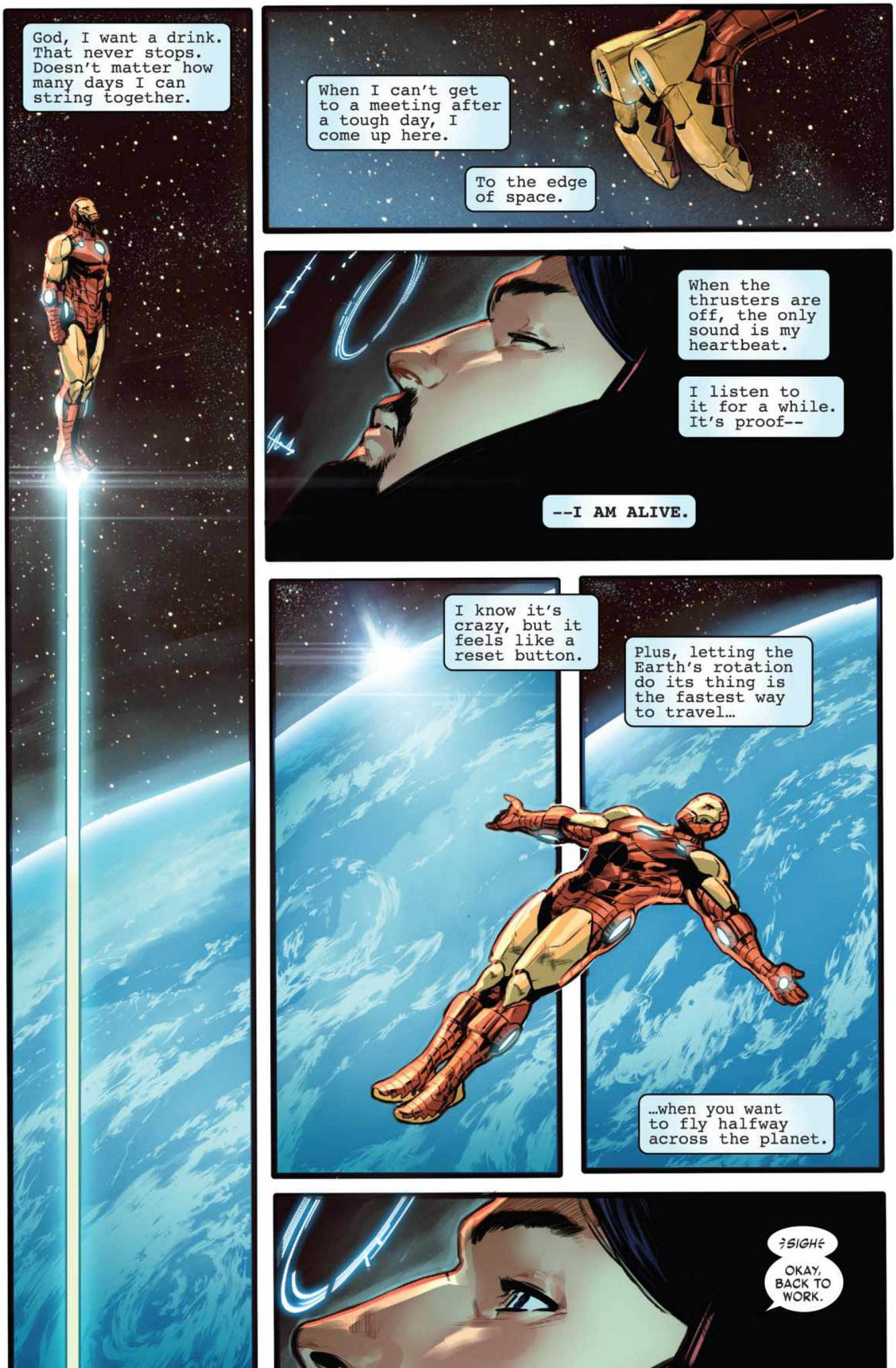
YOU'RE MAD AT ME FOR SOME DELUSION THAT I HELD MARS...BUT I'LL BE DAMNED IF I'LL LET YOU USE MY CREATIONS TO HURT ANYONE.
EVEN STANE AND HAMMER WERE SMART ENOUGH TO LEAVE THE FEW FRIENDS AND FAMILY I HAVE OUT OF BUSINESS.

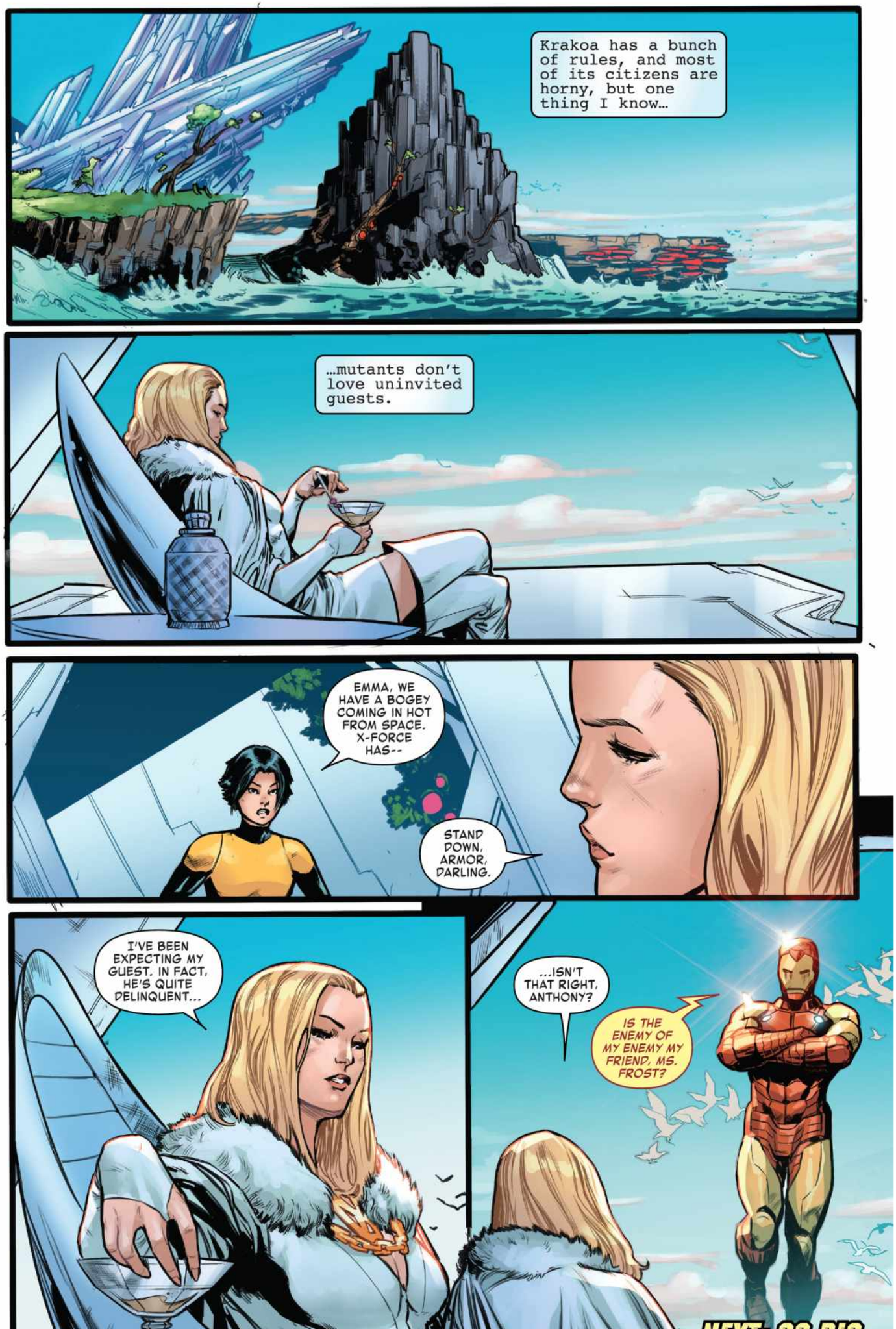
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?
EVERY DAY, I TRY TO SAVE LIVES, AND RIGHT NOW, I'M TRYING TO SAVE *YOUR* LIFE.
WALK TO THE NEAREST PRECINCT AND CONFESS TO EXPLODING MY BROWNSTONE, KILLING MY NEIGHBOR AND MURDERING MY FRIEND FOR HIS STOCK.
THAT'S NOT A GREAT OFFER.
LET ME COUNTER WITH MY FINAL OFFER--
--TO JOIN ME!

NO. THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE--
--TO SURRENDER.
SKRAKK!
AAAH!
HOPE YOU CAN AVOID ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY, BUT IF YOU CAN'T, I UNDERSTAND THE STARK UNLIMITED HEALTH PLAN IS STELLAR...
...I TRUSTED ZHONG WEI TO INSTITUTE IT.
WHETHER YOU'RE STILL ALIVE AT THE END... THAT'S UP TO YOU.

OH, TONY.
I THINK PERHAPS YOU ARE THE ONE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.
I wanted to scare Feilong into confessing, not dissemble him, but it was clear we're going to do this the hard way, so I put on the afterburners before I did something I'll regret.
HA HA HA HA!
FINALLY!
I HAVE A WORTHY NEMESIS.

AT THE LAW OFFICES OF JEN WALTERS, A.K.A. SHE-HULK.
TONY, CALL ME BACK. YOU JUST GOT SOME C&Ds FROM THE NEW OWNERS OF YOUR OLD COMPANY.
COURT REVIEWED AUDIT OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE "IRON MAN" SUIT
I'M NOT SAYING I WON'T BE ENOUGH FOR YOU, BUT I THINK YOU MAY NEED AN *INTELLECTUAL-PROPERTY* SPECIALIST AND...
...I'M MORE OF A LITIGATOR. IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE...I HOPE YOU'RE OKAY.


God, I want a drink. That never stops. Doesn't matter how many days I can string together.
When I can't get to a meeting after a tough day, I come up here.
To the edge of space.
When the thrusters are off, the only sound is my heartbeat.
I listen to it for a while. It's proof--
--I AM ALIVE.
I know it's crazy, but it feels like a reset button.
Plus, letting the Earth's rotation do its thing is the fastest way to travel…
…when you want to fly halfway across the planet.
SIGH
OKAY, BACK TO WORK.


Krakoa has a bunch of rules, and most of its citizens are horny, but one thing I know…
…mutants don't love uninvited guests.
EMMA, WE HAVE A BOGEY COMING IN HOT FROM SPACE. X-FORCE HAS--
STAND DOWN, ARMOR, DARLING.
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING MY GUEST. IN FACT, HE'S QUITE DELINQUENT...
...ISN'T THAT RIGHT, ANTHONY?
IS THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY MY FRIEND, MS. FROST?

#5: THE WHITE QUEEN COMETH!

TONY STARK IS AT THE END OF HIS ROPE, SO FOR SUPPORT, HE TURNS TO...EMMA FROST?! WILL SHE HELP TONY OVERCOME THE ATTACKS FROM HIS NEW FOE, FEILONG? OR WILL THE WHITE QUEEN LEAVE TONY FROZEN IN HIS TRACKS?

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ZONE